

when the opportunity presented itself, he enrolled at Yale University, and then enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps so he could serve his country at a time when tensions were running high around the world.

After he completed his service in the Corps and graduated from Yale, he made what he would always say was the most important and the smartest move of his life when he married Marta. Marta was to be a strong and powerful influence as she helped to give his life balance and direction. Thus began a marriage that was to last for 60 years.

Now that Tom had found the love of his life, it was time for Tom and Marta to start making plans for their lives together. A business opportunity had brought them to Casper, WY, but they had no plans to stay. Fortunately, the beauty of the surrounding area, and the spirit and hospitality of the people they met soon changed their minds. So much so that when Tom's employer wanted to transfer him from Casper he decided instead to try his hand at running his own firm. That is how the Stroock Leasing Corporation came to be born.

Tom, to no one's surprise, soon proved to have an excellent mind for business. In just a few years, Tom had founded other business entities and he was making even greater strides on the path to success.

For many people that would have been enough. They would have been content to just sit back and enjoy all that life had already brought their way. That is how it would have been for most people, but not for Tom and Marta.

Tom's unshakeable determination to do everything he possibly could to improve the lives of those around him—to make his part of the world a better place wherever he happened to be—which had always served as his internal compass—now became stronger than ever. It became part of his personal mission statement that he worked very hard to fulfill time and time again, at home and abroad.

That is why, now that his businesses were doing so well, Tom decided to take that philosophy to the next level. He ran for and won a seat on the Natrona County School Board so he could help to make the local schools more effective and efficient. Tom knew from his own life the benefits that a good education can provide and he wanted all of our state's young people to have that same chance.

Then, after serving on the school board, he was elected to represent Natrona County in the Wyoming State Senate—a post to which he was re-elected several times. In both positions Tom showed that he was a master strategist. In the State legislature, no one ever paid closer attention to Wyoming's resources and our stream of revenue than Tom did. He watched every penny—how each one was earned and how each one was spent. Wyoming was

then placed on better and more sound financial footing because of what he did.

Throughout his life Tom was profoundly influenced by his years at Yale. It was there that he met George H.W. Bush and the two soon became good friends. He must have been impressed with Tom because, when he was elected President and the opportunity presented itself, he named Tom Stroock to serve as our Ambassador to Guatemala.

Tom preferred Guatemala to the other available posts because it was in the midst of a great civil war and of all the nations in the area, Tom felt that he could do the most good there.

At the conclusion of his service in Guatemala, Tom and Marta headed right back home to Wyoming. To no one's surprise, Tom hit the ground running and was once again involved in a wide variety of issues that ranged from the status of our energy industry to the future of the University of Wyoming. He even wrote some guest columns for the Star-Tribune. Never one to mince words or water down his ideas and views, his columns often raised eyebrows—and the attention of people with other points of view!

During these years, he also found the time to start and fund the Stroock Forum on Wyoming Lands and People. The Forum, which was held every year, brought an interesting speaker to Wyoming to share their views on many different issues.

As we look back in the years to come, we will always remember Tom as one of our state's strongest leaders. He led the best way—by example—and by so doing encouraged others to follow his lead and do their best at whatever they felt called to do in life.

Tom's service can best be summed up by the words Mike Leon of Sheridan used when he was in the Legislature to emphasize the importance of maintaining the individuality of our state. Tom quoted them himself in one of his speeches—"We don't want to make Wyoming like every place else, when every place else wants to be just like Wyoming."

That was Tom's No. 1 goal in life—to make things better in Wyoming or wherever he happened to find himself, but, as he did, to ensure that each place maintained its own style and character so that it would never become a place that was just like every other.

In their travels, and throughout their lives, Tom and Marta have made everywhere they have been a better place for their having passed by. Together they were a remarkable team and they produced tremendous results and touched more lives than we will ever know.

Diana and I join with all those who knew and loved Tom in expressing our great sympathy for the loss we all share. We will keep all of Tom's family, his many friends and all those who were a part of his extended family in our prayers. He has gifted our state and

our people with a legacy of which we can all be very proud. He will be greatly missed and he will never be forgotten.●

CONGRATULATING STEVENS POINT POINTERS

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Madam President, I am pleased to offer my congratulations to the University of Wisconsin—Stevens Point Pointers men's basketball team on capturing their third national title after their exciting win in the 2010 NCAA Division III Basketball Championship. The Pointers' hard work year-round has made them widely respected, and this achievement has made many Wisconsinites and Pointers fans very proud.

The team's perseverance and commitment to excellence throughout the season were on display during their journey to this year's title game, where guts and determination produced a thrilling game from start to finish. Despite being down by 10 points in the second half, the Pointers came back and defeated Williams College 78-73 to win the title and finish the year with a record of 29-4.

These remarkable student-athletes, as well as Coach Bob Semling and his coaching staff, have continued the Pointers' winning tradition and admirably represented Wisconsin at the very highest levels of athletic competition. The Pointers represent the best of Wisconsin's competitive spirit. Congratulations once again to the University of Wisconsin—Stevens Point community, and Head Coach Bob Semling, Assistant Coaches Lance Randall and J.R. Blount, and the student athletes of the 2010 NCAA Division III Champions Pointers basketball team.●

RECOGNIZING WASHBURN & DOUGHTY ASSOCIATES, INC.

● Ms. SNOWE. Madam President, today I honor a small business in my home State of Maine that has faced substantial adversity and demonstrated incredible resolve and determination. Located on the beautiful Damariscotta River in midcoast Maine, Washburn & Doughty Associates, Inc., has manufactured steel and aluminum commercial vessels since 1977. Founded by Bruce Doughty, Bruce Washburn, and Carl Pianka, the company delivers an assortment of tugboats, commercial passenger vessels, fishing boats, barges, ferries, and research vessels to a wide variety of clients.

In July of 2008, at their facility in East Boothbay, a fire torched the company's central construction location, leaving the operation in shambles. The company faced a steep uphill climb as they began seeking grants, loans, and insurance funds to recover their operation. Following the blaze, the company battled the Maine winter and forged ahead to continue building its vessels outdoors.

With fortitude and grit the company was the only boatyard in Maine to win